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cussed in detail. The oil is believed to have been derived from the two organic shales, and apparently each gave rise to a different type of oil—the Moreno to a light paraffin oil and the Kreyenhagen to a heavy asphalt oil. The diatoms are believed to have been the greatest contributors in the formation of the oil.

H. R. B.

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*Mineral Resources of Alaska for 1914.* By ALFRED H. BROOKS and Others. U.S. Geol. Surv., Bull. No. 622, 1915. Pp. 380, pls. 11, figs. 8.

This volume is the eleventh of a series of annual bulletins summarizing the results of the investigations of Alaskan mineral resources and the status of the industry in the territory. Fourteen papers deal with the mineral resources of certain districts.

The gold and copper deposits of the Port Valdez district are described by B. L. Johnson. The country rock includes basic lavas, slates, graywackes, and other sediments of Mesozoic age. Gold occurs in quartz-filled fissure veins formed at moderate depths; the copper chiefly as sulphide impregnations and replacements of sheared zones along the fractures. The mineral association in both gold and silver ores is practically the same, varying only in relative proportions. The sulphide minerals are pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena, sphalerite, and some pyrrhotite and arsenopyrite. There was but one period of mineralization. As in the Ellamar district, both types had a common origin in solutions that circulated subsequent to late Mesozoic intrusions, with which they were probably genetically related.

P. S. Smith and A. G. Maddren describe the quicksilver prospects of the Kuskokwin region. The ore occurs in brecciated zones in Cretaceous sandstones and shales at the contacts of granitic and andesite dikes. Cinnabar, generally with stibnite, occurs in quartz veinlets and stringers. In places calcite and siderite are present. Some cinnabar has also been obtained from placer gravels, and detritus in a stream near one of the deposits contains native mercury.

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